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**ANARCHIST
HOTLINE**



535-5731

THE HOTLINE IS BACK! P. 2

DRUG WAR or RACE WAR?



Recent police raids on public housing developments in Etobicoke have unleashed a storm of controversy. The Black community has responded with accusations of racism and police brutality as the residents of the projects were subjected to racial slurs, random violence and the arrest of innocent people. Others have responded by firebombing a police car, stabbing an officer in the leg, leaving a gasoline bomb at a station house and pelting two cops making an arrest with debris. These should all be considered "allegations" since we should not believe either the police or the press, even if it is encouraging to know that people are fighting back.

The police have reassured us that this is a "War against Drugs" and not a race war. What better way to build their credibility with the white community than by seemingly protecting us

(cont. on page 3)

WOMEN ARE WATCHING



Male Menace in Cabbagetown

A white man with black hair and dark eyes, in his late 30s has been harassing women in the cabbagetown area near Carlton and Parliament. He makes grunting noises, says that he is a photographer but has no business card. He has been seen during the day in a big dark red car licence number 899 HCD. He has also harassed women at streetcar stops and on the Carlton streetcar. If you see him, yell, run, call other women for help. If you know you are safe you can confront him, or you can call your local Rape Crisis Centre or a cop. Women can all be safer if we tell each other about dangers in OUR streets.

It's important that this information be shared to make the streets safe for ALL women ALL THE TIME. You can contact your local rape crisis centre, the Toronto Rape Crisis Centre, at their office number (597-1171) or on their 24 hour crisis line (597-8808). They offer counseling and support services to victims of abuse.

A Wolf in Chic Clothing

IXL is a Canadian company with stores in at least two cities (Montreal and Toronto) that specializes in selling skinhead paraphenalia ... boots, jackets, etc. In Montreal, at least, IXL is also in the business of distributing white power "oi" music (such as Screwdriver, a Nazi band from England), *Canada Awake* fanzine (a neo-nazi magazine for Canadian bald racists) and who knows what else. Alaric Jackson, the guy who runs the Montreal IXL (his parents allegedly own the entire company) is leader of United Skinheads of Montreal, a racist, homophobic and violent group of bald racists. Jackson, whose home phone number is (514) 499-1310, plays in Cross, an oi band, with Mark Bower, an Ottawa Nazi organizer. Cross recently played at the "Save Our Canada Day Festival '89" white power rendezvous in Minden Ontario (July 1-2). Bower and Jackson also produce *Canada Awake*.

IXL does not present itself as a neo-nazi company to just any skin who walks in off the street. They are quite willing to accept the money of all types of skins and non-skins who like Docs (Doc Marten boots) and bomber jackets. They are only open about their ultra right-wing tendencies to the converted, ie to people whom they know. For this reason it's necessary to expose them: tell your friends, write in fanzines, graffiti on their walls the fact that IXL is a neo-nazi company and must be boycotted. Nazi boneheads have made money off the anti-racist skinhead movement for long enough. IXL's Toronto address is: 198 Queen St. West, and their phone numbers are 977-4148 and 960-8649. Feel free to

pay them a late night visit or whatever you want. (*Syndicat des Eleves, Montreal*)

The preceeding was reprinted from issue 1 of *Youth Lib*, a new Youth Liberation magazine put out by the Syndicat des Eleves in Montreal. The Syndicat is willing to do support for youths in prison (including orphanages, boarding schools, reform schools and "foster homes"). They don't do support for adults in prison, and don't consider 22 or 21 year olds to be youths: "a youth is someone who is legally not treated as an adult because of their age". The Syndicat can be reached at 2035 Boul. St. Laurent, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H2X 2T3. The first issue of *Youth Lib* is also available from that address for a donation (about \$1).



HOTLINE SIZZLES AGAIN

The anarchist hotline returns Monday Aug. 21 with a new number: 535-5731. The phone line will provide a lively mix of social, political and cultural events of interest to the local anarchist community. As well the phone line will serve as a message centre for the Ecomedia Calendar. People with information about events of interest can call the Hotline and leave their message on the machine. We'll try to include relevant information in the bi-weekly bulletin, on

ANARCHIST HOTLINE



535-5731

the hotline and on the radio. The sooner we know what's happening the sooner we can let people know what's happening so call us soon at 535-5731.

In the spirit of mutual aid, the new and improved Anarchist Hotline would appreciate any contributions to the service. Installation charges for the new number and a new phone machine are significant start-up costs and your donations are very welcome. Any surplus will be applied to the regular monthly charges. First in a series of occasional appeals. Send money to Ecomedia, made out to Ecomedia, but please specify it for the phone line.

DRUG WAR or RACE WAR?

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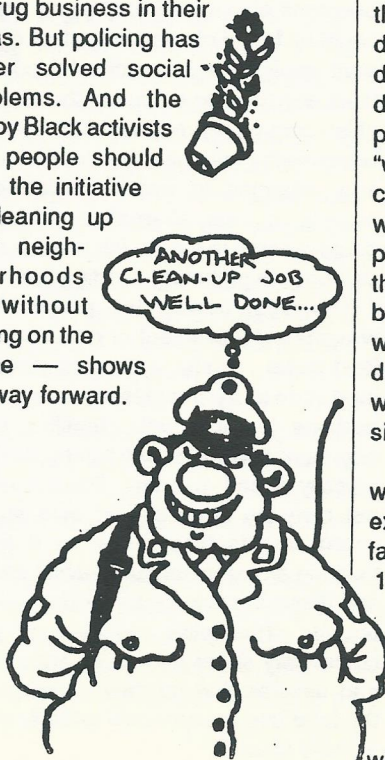
against the twin scourge of drugs and an emerging Black underclass. Whatever resentment many whites may have against the cops it pales into insignificance compared to their fear of black youth. And with the cheer leading and 'crisis-mongering' of the local media, combined with the all pervasive American media, with its scenes of para-military actions against the inner-city (minority) "gangs", the police will milk the alleged drug crisis for all it's worth.

But what can one call a violent confrontation, backed by displays of force (the Aug 16 Globe reports that up to 30 troops, sorry cops will be on duty 24 hours a day at the Jamestown site) in which one side is virtually all white and the other side is primarily minorities; one side is armed, the other isn't (no weapons charges were laid during the raids); and the only violence is inflicted on the side with the less power. The police don't want it to be a "race war": being an agent of oppression is never as much fun when the other side fights back.

Crime and policing are rooted in the politics of a community. The crime rate and level of drug use are both open to manipulation in the propaganda war. An article in the Globe and Mail (Aug. 14) details that according to the Addiction Research Foundation drug use has been declining over the decade. Moreover, Toronto has a lower crime rate than that of any of Canada's major cities except for Calgary. There is probably more cocaine in the wealthy suburbs — which is also where most of the profits turn up — than in most housing developments, but we won't see heavily armed raids in the Beaches.

The war on drugs has only made it easier and more justifiable for the police to marginalize the Black community. The racism of whites is a combination of fear of other and a more practical wish to ensure a greater proportion of goodies by eliminating as many people of colour as possible from the competition for the good jobs. The police are willing to facilitate this process of social exclusion since they concentrate the venom of racism while benefiting from the war against drugs by ever increasing levels of funding and personnel.

It is not that selling crack or cocaine can be defended. Many poor communities are facing problems because of the drug business in their areas. But policing has never solved social problems. And the call by Black activists that people should take the initiative in cleaning up their neighbourhoods — without relying on the police — shows the way forward.



On the road to a Police State

This is one marine who believes in the value of discipline and respect", said New York Manhattan Borough President David Dinkins, a World War Two Marine veteran, "and I'm going to make sure that some young guys get a whole lot of it early on".

The creation of military-style prison work camps (the object of Dinkins' enthusiasm) is an idea floated and subsequently dropped by Mayor Koch in the early eighties. It has become a recurring theme in the current New York City mayoral campaign, as candidates scramble to attempt to appear tougher on crime than the competition. "They would do calisthenics at 5:30 in the morning, mow the grass in 95 degree heat or shovel snow at 15 degrees F below zero", said one candidate, Comptroller Harrison Goldin, promising an experience that prisoners "would not want to forget". Goldin is calling for 10,000 work camp spaces, which would double the present NYC prison capacity, and Koch is proposing that the feds turn over surplus military bases for the camps. If elected, Goldin wants anyone who tests positive for drugs when arrested to be charged with a new crime category and to spend six months in a work camp.

New York state began testing the work camps in 1987 and is currently expanding capacity to 1,500 beds. So far the work camp program is limited to 1st-time prisoners facing min. sentences of one to three years.

This is the "logic" of a society which proposes more cops and prisons as a solution to almost every social problem instead of dealing with these problems at their source.

Decentralists Meet in Toronto

Decentralists Discuss Direction

Various proposals for smallscale economic systems highlighted the Fourth World Decentralist Congress held recently in Toronto. Among systems already functioning are various rural communities, Letts Barter (a computer-based barter system started in B.C. and now being carried out in various places; an attempt to start one in Toronto floundered), and Share loans, a program which enabled residents of a county in Massachussetts to borrow funds to start small businesses, using supporters' desposits in a local bank as collateral. The members hope to expand this into a system of alternative currency redeemable only at the local level.

The Congress was sponsored by the School of Living, founded in Pennsylvania in the mid-1930s to promote the ideas of 19th century economist Henry George. The School has stimulated a number of experiments in community, many of them successful. Its application of the term "fourth world" to its proposed network of decentralized communities is questionable, since the term "fourth world" was first used by indigenous peoples of the world who lack their own sovereign space. Thus, we have two fourth worlds of distinct, albeit complementary, memberships.

In his plenary address, the noted anarchist Ivan Illich stressed the need to abandon traditional methods and criteria in evaluating and dealing with the fourth world; it cannot be understood in terms of usefulness, value, power, need or future potential, and must be built on the basis of our own experience rather than such pre-con-

ceived criteria. Transcending commonly held concepts of individuality, contractual loyalty and progress, it instead creates spontaneous social shapes growing out of friendships.

It was interesting to compare the forum on alternative economics to the one held last year at Toronto's anarchist unconvention. Whereas the latter was mainly a theoretical bull session, the decentralists (average age about 25 years older) discussed the successful decentralist projects they are involved with. Many seem to share a rather naive assumption that the state will be more amenable to the spread of such experiments as the unviability of its present operations becomes obvious. If only some way could be found of combining their diligent application of successful practices with the raw energy of the anarchist community (mostly dissipated because the members wait for necessary changes to occur "spontaneously"), a real alternative society could emerge in time to save some of us from the gathering ecodisaster.

The most useful idea presented was the establishment of community land trusts. Briefly, a large parcel of land is held by trustees who assign portions to individuals, families or communes willing to use it in an ecologically sound manner. Holders do not own the land, but do own any improvements they make on it (ie building a house) and on leaving can sell these improvements to the next tenant. This gives members of a community some degree of privacy, and assures that on their departure the land use will continue to be ecologically sound.

ECOMEDIA TORONTO

Ecomedia is an international "wire service" which acts as an alternative to the regular news services. We focus on news and often censored information on autonomous and anarchist resistance and analysis of current events.

Ecomedia Toronto is a local office involved in three main projects: a radio show every Wednesday on CKLN 88.1FM between 7 & 8pm as part of their "Word of Mouth" program; another radio spot on CIUT 89.5FM, which is now changing times to become part of their news show, which starts at noon every Friday; and we publish the bulletin in your hands. This bulletin comes out every two weeks and is available free at locations throughout the city; subscriptions are \$15 for 26 issues (1 year) which are mailed every 2 issues to cut costs. Order yours from the address on the front. Make cheques or M.O.'s payable to Ecomedia.

For those who wish to support us further, donations of both money and time are welcome. The collective is short-staffed right now (which forced us to miss one issue recently) and appreciates any help given. Consider Ecomedia a community resource — one which you can use to further your resistance to power.

TOWN HALL MEETING

Yup, another anarchist Town hall meeting is happening August 31, at the Cecil st. Community Centre, 58 Cecil st. (across from Grossmans). This is an opportunity to meet and talk with other anarchists in Toronto and get a sense of the various projects underway and ideas circulating.